Continuation of Application No. 10/061,128 Preliminary Amendment Dated March 8, 2004

**REMARKS** 

The specification has been amended to update the priority information. Further, the

specification has been amended to correct inadvertent print-out errors in the Greek symbols and

temperature degree symbols on pages 78-90 of the application. The amendments include no new

matter.

Original claims 1 to 38 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of any

previously claimed subject matter. New claims 39-62 are directed to methods to treat HCV

using β-D-2'-fluoronucleosides. Support for these claims can be found on page 13, line 26 to

page 14, line 9; on page 17, lines 8-23; and on page 81, line 30 to page 84, line 14.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present continuation patent application, as

amended, is in condition for examination and requests such action. If any issues remain that may

be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call Sherry M. Knowles, Esq. at 404-572-

3541.

If the Examiner determines any additional fee is required associated with this Preliminary

Amendment or any other paper attached hereto, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such

fee to Deposit Account 11-0980.

Respectfully submitted,

Shew Knowles

Sherry M. Knowles, Esq.

Reg. No. 33,052

March 8, 2004

King & Spalding LLP

191 Peachtree Street, N.E., 45th Floor

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

404.572.3541 (direct)

404.572.5145 (facsimile)